

# **Brownfields Supplemental Assistance** ***Sacramento, CA***

Outreach and Special Projects Staff (5105)

Quick Reference Fact Sheet

**EPA's** Brownfields Economic Redevelopment Initiative is designed to empower states, communities, and other stakeholders in economic redevelopment to work together in a timely manner to prevent, assess, and safely clean up brownfields to promote their sustainable reuse. Brownfields are abandoned, idled, or under-used industrial and commercial facilities where expansion or redevelopment is complicated by real or perceived environmental contamination. EPA is funding: assessment demonstration pilot programs (each funded up to \$200,000 over two years, with additional funding provided for greenspace), to test assessment models and facilitate coordinated assessment and cleanup efforts at the federal, state, tribal, and local levels; and job training pilot programs (each funded up to \$200,000 over two years), to provide training for residents of communities affected by brownfields to facilitate cleanup of brownfields sites and prepare trainees for future employment in the environmental field; and, a cleanup revolving loan fund program (each funded up to \$1,000,000 over five years) to provide financial assistance for the environmental cleanup of brownfields. These pilot programs are intended to provide EPA, states, tribes, municipalities, and communities with useful information and strategies as they continue to seek new methods to promote a unified approach to site assessment, environmental cleanup, and redevelopment.

## **BACKGROUND**

EPA has selected the City of Sacramento to receive supplemental assistance for its Brownfields Assessment Demonstration Pilot. Sacramento, a city of 370,000 people with an unemployment rate of 7.4 percent and a minority rate of 39.9 percent, has experienced growth in the past decade that far outpaces that of other California cities of similar size. Nevertheless, significant amounts of land within Sacramento's developed urban areas remain underutilized because of real or perceived contamination. Sacramento's recent growth has bypassed these brownfields properties and is leading to the development of prime agricultural land in surrounding areas.

The Pilot will target two sites within El Monte Triangle, a 23-acre area with multiple owners and ongoing industrial, commercial, and residential land uses. Reuse of this area, which lies within a state enterprise zone, has been hampered by former industrial uses, the presence of known toxics, and public health and liability concerns. Reuse potential for this area has increased, however, since the completion of the Arden-Garden Connector, a surface transportation link providing rapid access to North Sacramento from I-5 and I-80. The Triangle is part

## **PILOT SNAPSHOT**



*Sacramento, California*

**Date of Award:** April 2001

**Amount:** \$150,000

**Profile:** The Pilot targets two sites within the El Monte Triangle area for supplemental soil and groundwater assessments to facilitate cleanup and redevelopment.

### **Contacts:**

City of Sacramento  
(916) 264-8888

Regional Brownfields Team  
U.S. EPA - Region 9  
(415) 744-2237

Visit the EPA Region 9 Brownfields web site at:  
<http://www.epa.gov/region09/waste/brown/index.html>

For further information, including specific Pilot contacts, additional Pilot information, brownfields news and events, and publications and links, visit the EPA Brownfields web site at:  
<http://www.epa.gov/brownfields/>

of the North Sacramento Redevelopment Area, which is characterized by significant blight and a large low-income population.

## **OBJECTIVES AND PLANNED ACTIVITIES**

The Pilot will use EPA's supplemental assistance grant to undertake additional soil and groundwater analysis on the two targeted sites to supplement completed and ongoing investigations (e.g., a health risk assessment) by the city in the El Monte Triangle area. Based on the assessment results, the Pilot will design appropriate cleanup plans. In addition, the Pilot plans to partner with the Sacramento Housing and Redevelopment Agency (SHRA), who will take the lead in developing and implementing the stakeholder consensus-building program to address cleanup and redevelopment options at the two targeted sites.

Possible reuses for the targeted sites, considered to be the gateway to the El Monte Triangle area, include a park on the Colfax Yard property (located directly southeast of the Ueda Parkway and the Sacramento Northern Bike Trail) and a retail shopping facility on the 58 Arden Way site (located directly south of the Arden-Garden Connector).

*The Pilot plans to:*

- Conduct soil and groundwater analysis to supplement the health risk assessments;
- Design appropriate cleanup plans;
- Implement a stakeholder/public participation process to address public health concerns at the targeted sites; and
- Develop a report designed to provide stakeholders with information regarding the contamination levels at the targeted sites, liability issues, and potential funding.

*The cooperative agreement for this Pilot has not yet been negotiated; therefore, activities described in this fact sheet are subject to change.*